

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 094279

FOR BROWN FROM ANDREWS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. MEETING WITH RFE MANAGEMENT IN GARMISCH. WITH REFERENCE TO YOUR O-I (WARSAW 2934), CARL SCHMIDT WANTS TO REASSURE YOU THAT HE HAD NOT FORGOTTEN YOUR SUGGESTION TO HOLD ANOTHER INFORMAL MEETING BETWEEN EE DCM'S AND RFE MANAGEMENT DURING THE GARMISCH CONFERENCE. HARRY GILMORE HAS TAKEN UP THE IDEA WITH RALPH WALTER, VICE PRESIDENT OF RFE/RL FOR POLICY AND PROGRAMS, WHO WAS ENTHUSIASTIC. HE SUGGESTED TENTATIVELY THAT HE, BILL BUELL AND JIM BROWN BE THE RADIOS' PARTICIPANTS. HARRY GILMORE WILL DRIVE DOWN WITH THEM FROM MUNICH. WE ARE MOVING TO SET UP THE MEETING OVER LUNCH, IN THE SAME PLACE IT WAS HELD IN 1976, ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 3. BEFORE THE END OF THE WEEK YOU SHOULD SEE A CIRCULAR TELEGRAM SLUGGED FOR DCM'S OUTLINING THE PLAN. THIS TIMING SHOULD WORK
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OUT WELL FOR YOU. WE DOUBT YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO FIND ANYONE AROUND FROM THE MANAGEMENT WERE YOU TO STOP IN AT THE RADIOS ON THE MAY 1ST HOLIDAY.

2. WE HAVE A REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A VISIT TO THE DAO BY THREE DIA OFFICIALS--LTG HAROLD R. AARON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, COL. LEONARD A. SPRITO, ASSISTANT DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR

HUMAN RESOURCES, AND GS-15 DENZIL L. PRITCHARD, CHIEF, GROUND FORCES TEAM, SOVIET/EAST EUROPEAN DIVISION. AS PART OF A SWING THROUGH THE USSR, POLAND, HUNGARY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND THE GDR THEY WOULD BE IN WARSAW MAY 17-19. WE ARE PREPARED TO APPROVE THIS VISIT, BUT IF YOU FEEL IT WOULD TAX YOUR RESOURCES BECAUSE OF ITS PROXIMITY TO THE VISITS BY SECRETARY BERGLAND, THE FSI EXECUTIVE SEMINAR, AND ROSS JOHNSON, WE WILL ASK DIA TO POSTPONE OR REARRANGE THE WARSAW STOP FOR AFTER MAY 21. LET US KNOW SOONEST.

3. WE UNDERSTAND JAN NOWAK AND OTHERS OF THE POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS ARE PRESSING KEY CONGRESSMEN TO ASK THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST ALLEGED INCREASED REPRESSION IN POLAND FOLLOWING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT. THEY REFER TO THE HARRASSMENT OF THOSE INVOLVED IN THE "FLYING UNIVERSITIES." ALTHOUGH WE FEEL QUIET DEMARCHES BY SOME CONGRESSMEN AND OTHERS TO EXPRESS CONCERN MIGHT BE IN ORDER, WE BELIEVE NOWAK AND THE OTHERS ARE PRESSING TOO FAR TOO FAST AND AGAINST STILL UNEVALUATED FACTS. WE NEED YOUR CONTINUING REPORTING AND ASSESSMENT OF THE DISSIDENCE AND REGIME REACTIONS TO IT IN ORDER TO FORMULATE OUR OWN POSITION ON SUCH PROPOSALS.

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4. YOU WILL SOON RECEIVE A CABLE FROM COMMERCE ABOUT THE TOURISM AGREEMENT. IT SIMPLY REPORTS THAT WE ARE ABOUT TO CONCLUDE SUCH AN AGREEMENT WITH MEXICO SO ONE WITH POLAND WOULD NOT BE THE FIRST, AS IT HAD APPEARED WHEN IT WAS PROPOSED LAST FALL. ALTHOUGH THE CABLE SAYS WE WOULD STILL CONSIDER SUCH AN AGREEMENT WITH POLAND, YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT NEITHER EB NOR EE IS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT IT. THE PRESSURE IS COMING FROM THE TOURISM OFFICE IN COMMERCE WHICH SEEMS TO WANT TO ADD ANOTHER NOTCH ON ITS GUN, BUT WE FEEL THE DRAFT AS IT STANDS IS MEANINGLESS, AND WE WOULD BE NEITHER SURPRISED NOR DISAPPOINTED IF THE POLES EITHER REJECT IT OR IGNORE IT. VANCE

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